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To: [Laura_Archuleta@fws.gov](#); [Barb_Osmundson@fws.gov](#)
Subject: Initiation of consultation pursuant to ESA Section 7(a)(2)
Date: Monday, October 16, 2017 8:23:00 AM

FWS Colleagues,

EPA would like to initiate ESA consultation on certain new/revised Colorado water quality standards (WQS). EPA's approval will be subject to the results of consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to ESA Section 7(a)(2). Nevertheless, EPA also has a Clean Water Act obligation, as a separate matter, to complete its water quality standards approvals within the 60 day statutory timeframe.

The WQS in question were adopted by the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission on January 12, 2015, January 11, 2016, January 9, 2017, and August 7, 2017. Generally, we anticipate consultation on various new/revised WQS for protection of aquatic life:

- New/revised aquatic life classifications,
- New/revised aquatic life-based numeric standards, and
- New/revised temporary modifications (aquatic life parameters).

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